

From: Edlund, Paul
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 1:29pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

January 24, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft

U.S. Department of Justice

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

The settlement reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice will be beneficial for the IT industry and the economy during this difficult time. The antitrust suit may not have directly affected my IT-based business, but it does not mean that it did not have an adverse affect on businesses across the nation. The settlement is designed to provide a guide for good business practice.

The settlement promises to provide consumers with more choices, and compensates the so-called losses of Microsoft competitors. Microsoft has agreed to license out its Windows operating system to the 20 largest computer makers on equal terms and conditions. The settlement also instructs Microsoft to provide its competitors with information regarding the various interfaces of Windows. This will lead to better software, at lower prices overall.

I strongly recommend that you decide to finalize this settlement so things in the technology sector get back to usual. The usual of the technology sector should be innovation, not litigation.

Sincerely,

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